

AQIP Systems Portfolio

The Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) is the accreditation process through which Southeast Arkansas College (SEARK) maintains its accreditation with the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA). Through AQIP, SEARK College demonstrates that it meets the Higher Learning Commission's Criteria for Accreditation while integrating the principles and benefits of continuous improvement into the culture of the College.

On June 1, 2011, SEARK College submitted its first Systems Portfolio. The Systems Portfolio is the culmination of initial efforts of the College to document the processes and College systems that contribute to accomplishing our Mission, Visions and Strategic Goals. The SEARK College Systems Portfolio consists of:

- An Organizational Overview
- Description of SEARK College Processes, Results and Improvements (Categories)
- Index to the Five HLC Criteria for Accreditation

The revised Systems Portfolio addresses the six AQIP Categories in providing information and data regarding the critical systems and processes in place at SEARK College. For each system, the SEARK has provided specific responses to each of the nine AQIP Process (P), Results (R), and Improvements (I) questions. The College has reached a higher degree of maturity in their implementation. Some processes are more fully developed and being implemented. Others processes are recognized and acknowledged as opportunities for improvement as the SEARK College matures in the AQIP processes.

The Revised AQIP Pathway Categories (now six in number) provide a framework that institutions can use to examine their key processes and allow institutions to analyze, understand, and explore opportunities for improvement. The use of the categories is fundamental to the development of the institution's [Systems Portfolio](#).

Category One: Helping Students Learn focuses on the design, deployment, and effectiveness of teaching-learning processes (and on the processes required to support them) that underlie the institution's credit and non-credit programs and courses.

Category Two: Meeting Student and Other Key Stakeholder Needs addresses the key processes (separate from instructional programs and internal support services) through which the institution serves its external stakeholders in support of its mission.

Category Three: Valuing Employees explores the institution's commitment to the hiring, development, and evaluation of faculty, staff, and administrators.

Category Four: Planning and Leading focuses on how the institution achieves its mission and lives its vision through direction setting, goal development, strategic actions, threat mitigation, and capitalizing on opportunities.

Category Five: Knowledge Management and Resource Stewardship addresses management of the fiscal, physical, technological, and information infrastructures designed to provide an environment in which learning can thrive.

Category Six: Quality Overview focuses on the Continuous Quality Improvement culture and infrastructure of the institution. This category gives the institution a chance to reflect on all its quality improvement initiatives, how they are integrated, and how they contribute to improvement of the institution.

Southeast Arkansas College submitted its second Systems Portfolio on June 1, 2015. The College expects to receive a Systems Appraisal Feedback Report from the Higher Learning Commission. The Feedback report will be received from the Systems Appraisal Team providing an assessment of each of the nine AQIP criteria and identifying strengths and opportunities for improvement. SEARK will respond to the Systems Appraisal Feedback Report at which time an AQIP Quality Check will be scheduled. AQIP Reviewers will provide a Quality Checkup report to the College. The SEARK College AQIP Timeline may be accessed [here](#) .

View our Systems Portfolio [here](#).